GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3376
ANSWERED ON:16.03.2000
EMPLOYMENT ON COMPASSIONATE GROUNDS IN BORDER ROADS ORGANISATION
BHUWAN CHANDRA AVSM (RETD.) KHANDURI

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether dependants of persons serving in the Border Roads Organisation (BRO) are entitled foremployment on compassionate grounds in case of their deaths;

(b) whether the Government are aware that wives of such employees have been refused employment on the ground that BRO does not employ women;

(c) if so, the number of such cases pending with the BRO as on date;

(d) whether the Government are aware that both the Ministry of Surface Transport and the Defence have refused to accommodate such widows;

(e) whether BRO had offered to Army some time backto employ equal number of male members on Army's request in lieu of employing such widows;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and
(g) the reasons for BRO not being permitted to employ such widows at their Headquarters or at peace stations?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES)

(a) The dependants of deceased or medically boarded out employees of Border Roads Organisation(BRO)who are in indigent circumstances are eligible for appointment on compassionate grounds which can be made upto a maximum of 5% of vacancies falling under direct recruitment quota in any Group 'C' or 'D' posts.

(b) The General Reserve Engineer Force of BRO is modelled on army pattern and has been declared as an integral part of theArmed Forces and, therefore, there is a ban on appointment of females in BRO.

(c) As on date, 71 widows are on the waiting list for appointment on compassionate grounds.

(d) They are not eligible for appointment in the Ministry of Surface Transport and Defence.

(e)&(f): In order to mitigate the difficulties of such dependents, a mutual arrangement had been worked out between BROand Army Headquarters by which two male dependents of army personnel are to be employed in BROas against one female dependent of BRO personnel to be appointed inlower formations of the army. Army Headquarters have notrefused appointment of female dependents of BRO personnel, buthave not been releasing any vacancy since September 1996 obviously due to the limited number of vacancies available for appointment on compassionate grounds.

(g) There is a ban on appointment of females in BRO.